

Rankings

Compiled by the *Asheville Metro Business Research Center*

The Asheville area has been recognized by a wide range of print and on-line publications.

2009

Black Mountain named as one of the Best Places to Live Now! *National Geographic Adventure Magazine, October 2009*
Included as one of 10 Best Places to Retire *US News & World Report, October 2009*
Included as a Favorite City for Business Trips *USA Today Road Warriors, August 2009*
Ranked #8 of Top 10 Metro Areas for Quality of Life *Business Facilities Magazine, July 2009*
Ranked #2 as One of the Nation's Top Arts Destinations *AmericanStyle Magazine*
Ranked #6 Best Metro Places for Business & Careers *Forbes.com, March 2009*
Included in 21 Best U.S. Towns for Baby Boomers' Active Retirement <http://www.bestboomertowns.com>

2008

11 of 20 Best Places to Retire *Black Enterprise magazine, October 2008*
7 of Top 10 Best Midsize Cities for Doing Business *Inc.com, July 2008*
46 of 200 Best Performing Large Cities, 2nd Biggest Single-Year Gainer *Milken Institute, September 2008*
2 of the Top 25 Small-City Art Destinations for 2008 *AmericanStyle magazine, June Issue 2008*
26 of 200 Large Metros Best Places for Business & Careers *Forbes, March 2008*
41 of 100 Best Places to Live and Launch *CNN Money.com, March 2008*

2007

5-Star Business Opportunity Metro *Expansion Management August 2007*
Best Southern Town *Outside magazine's August edition 2007*
7 of Top U.S. Cities to live in *Frommer's Cities Ranked & Rated 2nd Edition, May 2007*
23 of 200 Large Metros Best Places for Business & Careers *Forbes, April 2007*
1 of the top 100 places to live in 2007 *Relocate-America, April 2007*
2 of Top 10 easy spring weekend getaways *MSNBC, April 2007*
3 of the Top 10 up-and-coming travel destinations *VirtualTourist Spring 2007*
1 of 10 America's Best Eco-Neighborhoods *Natural Home, January/February 2007*

2006

24 of 200 Large Metros Best Places for Business & Careers *Forbes, May 2006*
7 of 50 Smart Places to Live *Kiplinger's Personal Finance, May 2006*
2 of America's Top 25 Small Town Arts Destinations *AmericanStyle, Summer 2006*
Designated Preserve America Community by First Lady Laura Bush *October 2006*
1 of 10 America's Best Eco-Neighborhoods *Natural Home, December 2006*

See reverse for 2002-2005 Rankings



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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COALITION for Asheville-Buncombe County

2005

- One of the Five Best Places to Retire** *Money Adviser, Consumer Reports* September 2005
- 8 of 10 Best Places to Live** *MSN/Sperling's Best Places* July 2005
- 19 of Top 25 Most Secure U.S. Places to Live** *Farmers Insurance Group* June 2005
- 31 of 168 Small Metros Best Places For Business And Careers** *Forbes* May 2005
- 31 of 394 Regions, Entrepreneurial/Innovation Index** *Small Business Administration* April 2005
- 8 of America's Top 25 Small Town Arts Destinations** *AmericanStyle, Summer* 2005
- 11 of 50 Best Places To Live** *Men's Journal* April 2005

2004

- One of Ten Great Adventure Towns** *National Geographic ADVENTURE* magazine, September 2004
- One of "Five Cities That Are Special"** *USA TODAY*, July 2004
- 10 of America's Top 25 Arts Destinations** *AmericanStyle, Summer* 2004
- Best Place to Live, Number 8 of 331 Metros** *CitiesRanked and Rated*, March 2004

2003

- Top Ten Towns for a Second-Home Investment** *MSN Money*, October 2003
- Best College Towns (#4 Warren Wilson College)** *Outside* magazine, September 2003
- Best Places To Retire** *MSN* July 30, 2003
- Top 15 Dream Towns (Best Places to Reinvent Your Life)** *AARP* magazine, May/June 2003
- 18 of America's Top 25 Arts Destinations** *AmericanStyle* Summer 2003
- Top Family Getaways** *Parents* magazine, April 2003
- Top Safe & Cheap Getaways (One of Five)** *USA TODAY*, April 4, 2003

2002

- Mountain Biking: Where To Ride (1 of 4 Cities)** *National Geographic ADVENTURE* magazine, Dec 2002/Jan 2003
- America's Happiest City for Women** *Self* magazine, October 2002
- Top 15 Most Popular Cities to Live** *Harris Poll*, September 2002
- Grade A- for Twenty-Five Years of Economic Strength** *POLICOM* Study of U.S. Metros July 2002
- One of America's Dozen Distinctive Destinations** *National Trust for Historic Preservation* July 2002
- 13 of America's Top 25 Arts Destinations** *AmericanStyle* Summer 2002
- One of America's 5 Best Biking Towns** *Bike* magazine June 2002
- Ranked 14 of 200 Metros for One-Year High-Tech Output Growth** *Forbes-Milken Institute Best Places* May 2002
- Ranked 3rd in Top 10 Great Literary Trips in the Nation** *Book* magazine May/June 2002
- The 20 Best Places to Retire in the World** *Barron's* March 2002
- One Urban Haven in the World** *The Wallpaper* magazine Annual Round-up Jan/Feb 2002
- 29 of Top Fifty Hottest Cities for Manufacturing Expansions & Relocations** *Expansion Management* magazine, January 2002